January 6, 2016

**Judicial Nomination Commission** 

c/o Lois Menzies

Office of Court Administrator

P.O. Box 203005

Helena, MT 59620-3005

Via email - mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

RE: Allen P. Lanning

Honorable Members of the Judicial Nomination Commission,

Allen P. Lanning and I have been lifelong friends and it is with great pleasure I offer my support of his application as District Court Judge. I can speak to Allen's integrity and high moral character as well as his efforts on behalf of at-risk children and families in the region. Allen has spent countless hours working with the Department of Health and Human Services, CASA-CAN, the Children's Receiving Home among other community endeavors. He has positively touched the lives of hundreds of children and families with his advocacy.

Please forward Allen P. Lanning for consideration for appointment to District Court Judge.

Jeff Mangan

Former Member of the Montana House and Senate

1223 7th Ave North

Great Falls, MT 59401

406.453.6784

From: MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Friday, January 8, 2016 4:38 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Tyler Smith [mailto:Tyler.Smith@clarkcountyda.com]

Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2016 1:44 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning's Application for Montana's Eighth Judicial District Court Open Seat

#### To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Allen Lanning's application to be appointed to Montana's Eighth Judicial District Court open seat. I have known Allen for almost 10 years, and he has shown himself to be a person of great moral character. He will make an outstanding judge, and he will provide the citizens of the Eighth Judicial District with the justice they are entitled to.

I first met Allen when I was earning my undergraduate degree in Montana. His strong commitment to justice and fairness was what inspired me to go to law school and pursue a career as an attorney. After my 1-L year, I was given the opportunity to intern with Allen at his firm in Great Falls. He continually impressed me with his knowledge, work ethic and drive to achieve justice for his clients. He also showed his compassion and desire to help those in need as an appointed guardian ad litem for children.

While my career path has taken me out of Montana, it remains dear to my heart. It's important to have a fair, ethical and intelligent judiciary. In my almost five years serving the citizens of Clark County, Nevada as a Deputy District Attorney, I have gained valuable insight on what qualities make a good judge. Allen Lanning is the right choice for the citizens of Montana. I strongly urge the committee to seriously consider his application.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need any further information.

Thank you,

# Tyler D. Smith Deputy District Attorney

Office of the Clark County District Attorney Domestic Violence Unit

Office: 702-671-2595 Fax: 702-477-2910

tyler.smith@clarkcountyda.com



**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Friday, January 8, 2016 4:38 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Sara Habein [mailto:sarahabein@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2016 2:08 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Open position for District Court Judge - In support of Allen Lanning

I'm writing in support of Allen Lanning to fill Judge Macek's position. I've known Allen for several years through creative community events, and what I've come to appreciate both personally and professionally is how very fair and trustworthy he is. His work in the community for children, the arts, and other local matters speak to his well-rounded perspective that will benefit our judicial system.

From what I know of his career, Allen is well experienced and willing to go far beyond the bare minimum because doing an excellent job is important. Impartial examination of facts will come first with him, paired with the desire to do the right thing based on those facts. Also, from what I know, he is the only current candidate who has spent time as a judge, so he already has some more specific experience for this position.

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope that these community recommendations in his favor will factor into your decision.

Sincerely, Sara Habein Co-Manager, Electric City Creative

--

Glorified Love Letters @sshabein

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 4:50 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Roberta Crossguns [mailto:rcrossguns@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:58 PM

To: MT Supreme Court, Subject: Alan Lanning

I strongly support Allen Lanning's nomination to fill the vacancy on the bench here in Cascade County by the retirement of Judge Julie Macek. I have known Allen professionally for about four years. I have observed him advocating for clients, presenting his case to the various courts, and also in the courthouse hallways. He is always professional and collegial. Allen has the right legal and life experience, as well as the right temperament to perform the duties of a district court judge. I hope you will give him the consideration he deserves. He will make an excellent judge.

# Sincerely,

Roberta Cross Guns PO Box 105 Ulm, MT 59485 406-459-9550

The wind of heaven is that which blows through a horse's ears. Arab proverb

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 13, 2016 12:07 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: James Muscle [mailto:4musclemt@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 9:40 AM

To: MT Supreme Court, Subject: Allen Lanning

#### Sir/Ma'am

I'm writing this email in support of Allen Lanning and the position of district court judge. A position such as this requires a strong sense of character, morals, commitment and ethics, all of which Allen Lanning possesses. He has an ability to read people from a distance, find the true message found in mere conversation and calm a room down with just a few words. His high spirit is welcomming and dare I say, addictive. He's been a true friend to my and I and a positive role model our two boys. Hands down the best man for this position.

Thank you for your consideration,

James Muscle Great Falls MT.

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2016 3:08 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Jake Sorich [mailto:jake.sorich@gmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2016 1:43 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Support for Mr. Allen Lanning

Dear Ms. Menzies,

My name i Jake Sorich and I have lived in Montana most of my life. I live at 314 3rd Ave. N, No. 2 in Great Falls, Montana.

With this email I would like to show my support for Mr. Allen Lanning in becoming Montana's next district court judge.

Mr. Lanning has spent his whole career helping others do good, and now is the time, I think, for him to be rewarded for that work. I think he, more than anyone else, is the right candidate to be the next district court judge here in Montana.

Thank you Ms. Menzies,

Sincerely,

Jake Sorich 406-868-0910 Teresa Lang-Court

704 35th Ave NE

Great Falls MT 59404

(406) 231-1604

Jan. 18, 2016

#### **Dear Commission Members:**

It is my distinct and certain pleasure to recommend Allen Lanning as a district court judge for Cascade County District 8. I have known Allen for nearly two decades and cannot recall a time when he was not striving to develop his professional or personal growth in everything from creative writing to parenting.

As a parent, as well as a compassionate human being, Allen has a concern for the children in our community. He understands the damage drug abuse and domestic violence have done to many children and families. I do not think it is exaggerating to say that his volunteer work with CASA has been instrumental in helping save children's lives.

Allen's dedication to the law is coupled with the zeal and positive attitude he brings to all things in life. Allen Lanning is a strong leader, as well as a solid follower when circumstances warrant. I have worked with him in numerous community theater projects. Allen puts in the dedication and time commitment necessary for any successful venture. He is the first to arrive, the last to leave and, is always, an encouraging force of nature.

Allen is often my "go-to" person when I have a concern or a need to discuss a problem. He can meet my most serious of worries with calmness and a rational outlook. I know without a doubt that he will bring this same balanced world view to the courtroom.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my thoughts with you,

Teresa Lang-Court

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:32 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Georgiana Dundas [mailto:georgianadundasis@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 18, 2016 6:25 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Recommendation of Allen Lanning

Office of Court Administrator P.O. Box 203005 Helena, MT 59620-3005 mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

RE: Allen Lanning

Honorable members of the Judicial Nomination Commission,

Hello, I would like to take a moment of your time to recommend the nomination of Allen P. Lanning for the open district Judge Position.

Allen was one of the first people I met when I moved to the Great Falls area a little over four years ago. I have always known him to be a kind and honest person and a wonderful father. He is active in the local community and I have a very deep respect for his work as a children's advocate.

I feel that Cascade county and Great Falls could only benefit from his fair judgment and strong community ties, making him the perfect choice to fill the open judge's position.

Respectfully Yours

Georgiana Dundas

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:31 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: David Glaeske [mailto:dglasskey@yahoo.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 17, 2016 9:54 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Page Lanning Recommendation

January 17, 2016

Judicial Nomination Commission c/o Lois Menzies Office of Court Administrator P.O. Box 203005 Helena, MT 59620-3005 mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

To the Judicial Nomination Commission c/o Lois Menzies:

I am writing to recommend and endorse Allen Lanning's nomination for the Eighth Judicial District Judgeship being vacated by the Honorable Julie Macek.

My name is David Glaeske; I am the Safety Director at a midsize construction company here in Great Falls, called Shumaker Trucking and Excavating Contractors, Inc. I am also the Equal Employment Officer for our company. As such, I am experienced in judging and determining a person's character either during interviewing/ orientation or after an accident/incident. I have been with this company since 2003, and as a safety professional since 1990.

Allen and I have known each other most of our lives as we are second cousins. Allen is much more than a relative; he is my attorney and my legal counsel. He was also my mother's attorney and guided her through life's issues, such as, the death of her husband and the settling of his estate and setting up of her own estate. The constant balancing of the Law and the wants of an older person, demonstrated his ability to communicate, ethical principles, and integrity.

As my attorney, he has helped to guide my affairs in many different aspects, such as counseling me when I was appointed executor of my mother's estate first by reclusing himself because of his courage and integrity. Then after the execution of the estate, he acted as the mediator between one of my siblings and me due to the sibling's personal animosity towards the estate's outcome. In this instance, Allen's judicial temperament was exhibited through his patience, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and common sense.

Allen and I's great grandfather was a police officer in Great Falls back in 1906 to 1916; and Allen is a chip off of him. Allen is kind, fair, trustworthy, intelligent, hard working, attentive, family-oriented, and above all honest. He is passionate about the law and protecting the rights of the innocent, as noted by his work with abused children and CASA-CAN.

Prior to writing this recommendation, I researched the position for which Allen was applying. I looked over his application; I saw he has been a Master pro bono and a substitute judge in the same court as the vacancy. Allen Lanning

has the required qualities of a good judge. He has judicial temperament, intelligence, ethics, courage, integrity, education, experience, ability to communicate, good health, civic and professional responsibility. Most of all Allen has the intangible key, which is character.

If you should have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact me.

Sincerely,

David Glaeske 2025 3rd Ave, N Great Falls, MT 59401

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:31 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Amanda Kesterson [mailto:akesterson09@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 17, 2016 6:31 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Public comments- Lanning

#### **Dear Commission Members:**

I'm writing in support of Allen Lanning's application for the position of the District Court Judge. I have been friends with Allen for 5 years after meeting him through my husband. There are so many attributes in Mr. Lanning that make him a great person including his contagious personality, intellligence, hard work and friendly smile. Allen is very passionate about being a great dad, a wonderful friend and supporting local businesses and activities. As a lawyer, Allen works very hard to preserve the legal rights we are all guaranteed. Although he represents a variety of clients, the part of his legal work that I admire most is the work he does with abused children. He is very committed to ensuring these children are protected.

I know that Allen's knowledge, experience and commitment to the legal profession undoubtedly make him the best person to fill the shoes of the Honorable Judge Macek.

Sincerely, Amanda Court RN, BSN

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:30 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- lanning

From: KEN KIRKMEYER [mailto:kirkmeyer@msn.com]

**Sent:** Sunday, January 17, 2016 5:02 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: RE: Appointment of Allen Lanning

January 6, 2016
Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005 Helena, MT 59620-3005
Via email - mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

RE: Allen P. Lanning

Honorable Members of the Judicial Nomination Commission, I have known Allen P. Lanning for over 20 years. I have known him on a personal level, both in activities we shared, such as theater, and as friends.

I strongly support Allen P. Lanning for the position of District Judge, for the seat that was vacated by Justice Macek for personal reasons.

I believe Allen P. Lanning is very well suited for this appointment, as he has stepped up and filled in for Justice Macek, so he is very aware of what the job entails, and is very capable of performing that job to the best of his ability. Allen P. Lanning has spent countless hours working with the Department of Health and Human Services, CASA-CAN, the Children's Receiving Home among other community endeavors. He has positively touched the lives of hundreds of children and families with his advocacy. His efforts on behalf of at-risk children and families in the region is widely know within the judicial system here in Great Falls.

Thank You for your consideration.

Dana Kirkmeyer <u>kirkmeyer@msn.com</u> 607 9th St. No. Great Falls, MT 59401

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:30 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: A Rolando [mailto:arolando77@hotmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 17, 2016 4:33 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning's Application for Open Judicial Seat in the 8th Judicial District

Please accept this as my strong support of Allen Lanning in consideration of appointment to the open judicial seat vacated by the Honorable J. Macek.

I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Lanning in child protection cases in Cascade County over the course of the last 4 years.

I know Mr. Lanning has the experience, integrity and commitment to justice that is essential for our courts.

I can speak whole-heatedly as a result of Mr. Lanning's time, effort and expertise many children and families have had such positive outcomes that simply might not have existed without his dedication and legal expertise.

It is without hesitation that Mr. Lanning has my full support. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Angie Rolando Training & Development Specialist State of Montana Child & Family Services

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:29 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Ed Moran [mailto:edness553@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Sunday, January 17, 2016 4:24 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning for District Court Judge for Cascade County

I fully support Allen Lanning for District Court Judge. I have known Allen for 27 years and have found him to be an upstanding person in both his professional and private lives.

Edward J. Moran

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:28 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Chris Groves [mailto:jgro489@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2016 8:56 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen lanning judge application

Dear commission members,

I am writing on behalf of Mr. Lanning's cascade county district court judge application. In the short amount of time I have known Mr. Lanning, I recognise he is a caring and responsible individual. Mr. Lannings hard word and dedication to the local court system is enough to know he is an excellent candidate for the position of district judge.

Sincerely,

Jason Groves

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:28 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Lindsay Groves [mailto:lindsaypcgroves@gmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2016 8:55 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning judge application

Dear commission members,

I am writing on behalf of Mr. Lanning's judge application.

He is a very well rounded man in the court, in social situations, and in the community of Great Falls.

I have the privelage of experiencing Allen on a more professional level. He is one who likes to take action as things are brought to is attention. He strives to be sure things are taken care of timely.

I feel Mr. Lanning would be a perfect fit for this opportunity to become the new judge.

Thank you.

Lindsay

Lindsay

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:27 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: <a href="mailto:gregory.laskey@yahoo.com">gregory.laskey@yahoo.com</a> [mailto:gregory.laskey@yahoo.com]

Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2016 8:49 PM

To: MT Supreme Court, Subject: Allen Lanning

#### Dear Commission Members,

I am writing in support of Allen Lanning for the open bench position recently vacated by the honorable Julie Macek.

Mr. Lanning has been an exemplary individual in the 20 years I have known him. He has provided advice on numerous occasions, both professionally and personally. I have grown to appreciate his vision and generosity. I am sure there are many applying, but I can assure you, none will live up to the standards and commitment that Allen will provide.

Please consider Mr. Allen Lanning as your choice to be a fair and balanced judge that provides the outstanding standards that our community deserves.

Sincerely,

**Gregory Laskey** 

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S®6 active, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:27 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Ian Court [mailto:veandr@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2016 8:48 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

**Subject:** Allen Lanning District Judge Application

#### **Dear Commission Members:**

I'm writing on behalf of Allen Lanning's application for the position of District Court Judge. I have known Mr. Lanning for nearly twenty years and have always been impressed with his integrity, compassion, and intellect in many areas, particularly in the areas of law. Allen was very gracious in offering me advice in my early adulthood in order to ensure that my rights were upheld and that I treated fairly under the law. He has enormous caring toward those who need additional protections, such has been seen in his work with CASA-CAN that I am sure you are already familiar with.

Mr. Lanning is an extremely flexible thinker, an excellent deductive reasoner, and a very dedicated person who is absolutely committed to fairness and the preservation of the rights that we are all guaranteed under the law. I doubt you will be able to find a better candidate for District Judge. Please take this into consideration when selecting someone for this position.

Regards, Ian Court, RN, BSN

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:26 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Traci McMickle Rosenbaum [mailto:bratchild454@gmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2016 8:44 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning Recommendation

I am writing to share my wholehearted endorsement of Allen Lanning for the position of District Court judge. In the eight years I have known Allen, his work in both law and in the community has only increased. He is a fair and thoughtful person, two qualities our city needs in its judicial system.

Allen's experience on the bench and the depth and breadth of his law work make him by far the best candidate for this position.

I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Traci Rosenbaum Great Falls

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:26 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Quincy Court [mailto:court.quincy@qmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2016 8:42 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning recommendation

#### Dear Commission Members;

I am writing in support of Allen Lanning's application for District Court Judge for Cascade County. My family has been friends with Allen for close to two decades and I have always known him to be an upstanding person. I was born and raised in Great Falls and moved back to this city four years ago in order to start a family here. I am confident that Allen would represent this city well in this position.

Thank you for your time,

**Quincy Court** 

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:25 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: nelleth@yahoo.com [mailto:nelleth@yahoo.com]

Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2016 8:42 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning application

#### Dear Commission Members,

It is my honor and privilege to recommend Allen Lanning for the open bench position recently vacated by Judge Julie Macek's unfortunate resignation. I've known Allen for almost 20 years. He's been a supportive and knowledgeable friend, lawyer, and community member. He lends his voice to the those who otherwise have none. By defending the children of abuse in Montana he shows his compassion and devotion to our state's current population and its future greatness. His generosity and commitment to making Montana the true last, best place inspires me and makes me hopeful. I heartily urge you to appoint Allen to our courts. Sincerely,

Janelle F. Munson

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S®6 active, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2016 4:24 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Amma Wayfarer [mailto:amma.wayfarer@gmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2016 8:36 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

**Subject:** Allen Lanning Application

#### Dear Commission,

I'm writing in favor of Allen Lannings judge application. I've known Allen for a few years, and I have been inspired by the work he has done in the community. With the way he cares about people and justice, and his broad range of experience, I believe he would benefit the community as a judge.

Thank you for your time,

Amma Jones

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 3:47 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Stephanie Hampton [mailto:shampton@pstrans.com]

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 1:31 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Recommendation for Allen Lanning for District Court Judge

Dear Commission Members,

I am writing in support of Allen Lanning's application for the district court judge position. I have known him for 10 years and I consider him to be of exceptional character. He is neutral in personality, accepting of lifestyles of all kinds, passionate about the people in the community he serves and fair in his assessment of civil proceedings.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this recommendation. Feel free to contact me at any of the numbers below, or my personal cell phone, which is (205) 306-5104.

I work in the Safety Department at P&S Transportation and will gladly speak to anyone who wishes to verify this personal recommendation.

Please check out our company blog and offer your input in the comments!

#### **Stephanie Hampton | Safety Department**

**P&S Transportation** 

P: 205-788-4000 x 263 C: 205-568-9030 F: 205-307-2230

#### pstransportation.com



OTHERS DELIVER GOODS. WE DELIVER GREAT.

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 3:46 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Brosey, Lindsey K [mailto:Lindsey.Brosey@edwardjones.com]

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 10:55 AM

To: MT Supreme Court, Subject: Allen Lanning

Dear Commission:

I am writing in support of Allen Lanning's application for the Montana District Court Judge for Cascade County. Mr. Lanning has been an influential part of my life for 10 years. In that time, he has been nothing but professional and well-reasoned.

It is my extreme honor to support him and believe he will be an excellent addition to Cascade County as District Court Judge.

Yours Truly,

Lindsey Brosey

Lindsey Brosey Branch Office Administrator Edward Jones 113 West Main Avenue Myerstown, PA 17067 (717) 866-2747 www.edwardjones.com

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For important additional information related to this email, visit <a href="https://www.edwardjones.com/US">www.edwardjones.com/US</a> email disclosure. Edward D. Jones & Co., L.P. d/b/a Edward Jones, 12555 Manchester Road, St. Louis, MO 63131 © Edward Jones. All rights reserved.

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 3:46 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Baker, Ann

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 10:43 AM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Cascade County District Court Judge

#### Dear Commission:

I am the Child Welfare Manager for Child and Family Services, Region II in the Great Falls office. I am supporting Alan Lanning's application for the Cascade County District Court Judge. In my work as a Child Welfare Manager, I have had the opportunity to work with Alan on a number of cases. He is a great advocate and has represented numerous children in our cases. He participates in Selection Committee, Foster Care Review Committee, and Family Group Decision Making Meetings on behalf of his clients. He can also be seen around the office consulting with workers on cases or reviewing files. Alan works collaboratively with this department in the best interests of children and families.

Sincerely Yours, Ann Baker

Ann Baker Child Welfare Manager, Region 2 DPHHS-Child and Family Services Division 2300 12<sup>th</sup> Ave S, #211 Great Falls, MT 59405

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 3:46 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: John Harris [mailto:john@speakingsocially.com]

Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2016 6:44 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Letter of Support for Allen Lanning

It is with great pleasure that I submit this letter of recommendation for Allen P. Lanning for the position of District Judge of the 8th Judicial District. I have known Allen in a personal and professional capacity for over a decade now. Allen has a wonderful ability to compartmentalize which I feel is a necessity to this job position. After all, Aristotle's very definition of law was reason that is free from passion, and it is the ability to do this that will ensure Allen is fair and judicious on the bench.

In addition to being an active member of the community, he also does charitable work, volunteers for Casca Can, as well as many other small local groups that cater to fairness and equality for minority groups. I feel that as someone that dispenses justice, a judicial member should also be active in the community encouraging it everywhere, not only when bound by a robe on the bench. Allen's legal abilities speak for themselves... a quick glance at his CV shows that he has been a substitute judge now for many years, something the other candidates have not, an editor for the Montana Law Review, and lead counsel on many cases that have had a significant affect on litigation in Montana. While there are numerous other candidates for this position, I don't feel that any of them will be able to seamlessly integrate into the position as he would, let alone take on the job with the level of enthusiasm and professionalism that he would. In a sense, he lives, breathes and exists for Jurisprudence. The position would be a reward for a career that he has long strived for, and a reward for the denizens of Cascade County to have a fair, knowledgeable Montanan on the bench.

My opinion comes from my own previous legal experience as not only a court reporter, a Court Room Clerk for the Honorable Gregory R. Todd, but also as a Civil Department Manager for the Cascade County Justice Court.

--

John Harris Commander of Communications John@SpeakingSocially.com 406-781-4259



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**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 3:45 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Suzanne Porter [mailto:portchat@bresnan.net]

Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2016 3:04 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: MT District Court Judge - in support of Allen P. Lanning

#### **Dear Commission Members:**

I hereby pledge my support for Allen P. Lanning to be appointed Montana District Court Judge for Cascade County when Judge Julie Macek retires.

Before meeting Allen Lanning, from my work as a litigation paralegal at a Great Falls law firm, I knew of his impeccable reputation in the legal community—as someone with high standards, diverse experience, and excellent skills. I had the pleasure to meet Lanning some 12 years ago when he joined the CASA-CAN board of directors. We served together on that board for several years, and I saw that his commitment to the safety and wellbeing of our community's children was unquestionable. After retiring from the State Department of Corrections, I underwent the CASA training and was sworn in as a guardian ad litem. In that capacity, I have often been in his courtroom where he serves as Standing Master and have been impressed with the patience, thoughtfulness, and firmness he displays while handling difficult youth in need of care matters. On a personal note, Lanning is a devoted father to his young daughter.

Others who have applied for the position of Montana District Court Judge for Cascade County may be qualified, but Allen P. Lanning would be the ideal choice for our community.

Thank you,

Suzanne Porter Great Falls, MT



# Department of Public Health and Human Services

Child and Family Services ◆ 2300 12<sup>th</sup> Ave S Suite 211 ◆ Great Falls, MT 59405 ◆ fax: 761-8663

Steve Bullock, Governor

Richard H. Opper, Director

January 21, 2016

Re: Allen Lanning

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in support of the open seat to replace the Honorable Judge Macek. I am currently employed through the State of Montana as a Child Protection Specialist Supervisor. I have been in this career for the past eight years and have had the opportunity to work with numerous lawyers and other professionals. Mr. Allen Lanning has always stood out as an astounding, exemplary man, professional and attorney.

Despite the overwhelming number of child abuse and neglect cases that this county has seen, Mr. Lanning has made time to address each and every child's needs that we have shared in common. I have seen Mr. Lanning go out of his way to go to foster homes to speak with children in their safe and secure settings who were too afraid to go other places to meet with him. I trust Mr. Lanning when he makes recommendations to the Court on behalf of children because he ensures that he has developed appropriate, meaningful relationships with his clients to best represent their desires at Court. He ensures that not only are his clients' legal needs being met, but he takes the time to ensure their social, emotional and well-being needs are being met as well.

In my experience, when the workload increases it becomes easy to lose focus of how these cases affect the day to day lives of the children they involve. Mr. Lanning has ensured that his clients have an appropriate, comfortable relationship with him and know that their voices and desires are heard and valued. Mr. Lanning is a respectable, trustworthy professional whom I would highly recommend to fulfill this position.

With his relentless motivation and his knowledge of Montana Law, Mr. Lanning would bring a wealth of knowledge and skills to this position. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at the following address.

Becci Dellinger 2300 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. Suite 211 Great Falls, MT 59405 Child Protection Specialist (406) 268-3745

From: Sent: To: Subject:	MT Supreme Court, Friday, January 22, 2016 2:46 PM Cook, Kevin Public Comment Lanning	
<b>Sent:</b> Thursday, January 21, <b>To:</b> MT Supreme Court,	nonomanagement@gmail.com] 2016 3:42 PM comotion of Mr. Allen Lanning J. D. to the office of District Court Judge:	
In Regards to the Promotion of Mr	Allen Lanning J.D to the office of District Court Judge:	
years. In that time I have witnessed	nally recommend Allen Lanning to the position of District Court Judge. I have known Mr. Lanning f first hand his commitment to his community, and the fair and equal treatment of everyone around h cipation in local arts endeavors, and supportive behaviors and attitudes, I know that Mr. Lanning wor ate to the position.	im.
	d, and has, in my opinion, an ideal mentality and disposition for a district court judge. He is calm, evalural predilection for careful analysis of all of the facts of a situation before movement.	en
I believe it would be incredibly be	reficial to the community as a whole, to see Allen Lanning appointed to this position.	
Sincerely,		
Tyson Habein		
Manager		
Electric City Creative		
3441 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave. North		
Great Falls, MT 59401		
406-217-5331		

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 2:51 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: melparshall [mailto:melparshall@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 9:24 PM

To: MT Supreme Court, Subject: Allan Lanning

Dear Commission Members,

I am writing in support of Allan Lanning's application for judgeship. For nearly four years, I have worked with abused and neglected children. On occassion, Mr. Lanning and I cross paths in the courtroom. From my first interactions with him I have found Mr. Lanning to be honest, professional, well prepared, and unbiased. As you must know the numbers of abuse and neglect of children in Cascade County are higher than other MT counties. I admire Mr. Lannings contribution towards helping to ease the overloaded courts and to join the community in the fight against child abuse and neglect.

Thank you for your consideration of Mr. Lanning.

Melody A Parshall Cascade City-County Health Department Parents as Teachers Home Visitor Circle of Security-Parenting Educator

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone



6440 So. Wasatch Blvd. Suite 235A Salt Lake City, UT 84121 Office 801/947-4106 Fax 801/618-4104 www.hubinternational.com

January 26, 2016

Montana Judicial Nomination Commission

Re: Allen P. Lanning District Court Judge Application

Dear Commission Members,

I support Allen P. Lanning's application for District Court Judge.

Allen is a hardworking, honest and thoughtful attorney who would serve the state of Montana well as a District Court Judge.

Sincerely Yours,

Executive Vice President

HUB International Insurance Services, Inc.

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 12:09 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: pryzwick [mailto:pryzwick@gmail.com] Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2016 5:59 AM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning for Montana district court judge for Cascade County

I am sending this email on behalf of Allen Lanning. He is intelligent, honest and cares deeply about the law. He will be a fair judge. I can honestly say that there is not a better choice for the position

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 12:09 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Lindsey Nussbaum [mailto:muabssun@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, January 25, 2016 9:05 AM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Support for Allen Lanning

Dear Commission Members,

I would like to indicate my support for Allen Lanning's application for the Cascade County District Court Judge position. I have had the opportunity to get to know Allen over the past two years. We are both involved with the local community theater and have had the chance to performed together. Community theater shows are always an interesting experience as there are quite a variety of people who take part. Allen stands out as a reliable member of this community. When he commits to a show, you can count on him to always make it to rehearsals, to be on time, and to know his lines. I recall that he often pitches in extra help with staging and props. The creative process can at times be stressful, but finding good responsible theater members like Allen helps things to run smoothly and ultimately leads to the show's success. While participating with these shows he has also shown the ability to work well with the variety of people that are involved. It's been a pleasure for me to to get to know Allen and to work with him. He is kind, easy to work with, and reliable - a true professional even just having fun as a performer. I'm sure those traits would serve him well as a District Court Judge.

Thank you for you time,

Lindsey Nussbaum Actor/Musician Great Falls, MT

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 12:08 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Marc Kraus [mailto:mwk112985@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 9:52 AM

To: MT Supreme Court,

**Subject: Allen Lanning Nomination** 

#### To Whom It May Concern:

It was recently brought to my attention that a good friend of mine, Allen Lanning, has applied to fill a vacancy as a District Court Judge. While reviewing all candidates I believe you will find Mr. Lanning the most qualified. I have known him for several years and during that time he has always been very active in the community whether it was through his work with kids or the community theatre and his moral character cannot be matched by anyone. He's the type of person that whether it's a personal or professional conversation, you know that Allen will give you the full honest truth, but also make you see things from the other side of the fence. Please consider Mr. Lanning to fill the vacancy and appoint him District Court Judge. You will not regret it.

Respectfully, Marc Kraus

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 12:08 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Grace Davis [mailto:squegee4me@yahoo.com]

Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 10:39 AM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Letter of support for Allen Lanning

Dear Commission Members,

My name is Grace Davis, lifelong resident of Great Falls and mother of two. I am pleased to support Allen Lanning for the eighth district court judge position in Cascade County, Montana, because he would be excellent for it. I would like to share an example of why. I met Allen when I was seventeen, performing my first role that required an accent in our local community theatre group. Nervous does not begin to state how I felt about my ability to act this part. We played in the cast opposite each other as young romantic interests. For many people this would have been awkward in the extreme, but Allen treated me professionally, kindly, and above all as an equal. He helped write the story of the person I would become as an actress and a woman by behaving so generously in that particularly challenging role.

Ever since that experience over 20 years ago, I have had the distinct privilege to call him friend and have enjoyed the benefits of that friendship. He is unfailingly helpful whenever possible; recently assisting me with the difficult task of settling my husband's probate pro bono even though he is happily busy in his professional and personal life. When I think of leaders who effortlessly enhance our world by simply living out the goals they have set for themselves, Allen is someone who comes to mind. These qualities Allen displays routinely- professional demeanor, leadership, kindness, and concern for equality - are all merits I would appreciate in a judge. Please consider Allen Lanning seriously for the position of eighth district court judge.

Thank you for your consideration,

**Grace Davis** 

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 12:08 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: <a href="mailto:cpausvi@gmail.com">cpausvi@gmail.com</a> [mailto:cpausvi@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 7:21 AM

To: MT Supreme Court, Subject: Allen Lanning

Dear Montana Judicial Nomination Commission Members:

I am writing to support Allen Lanning's application for district court judge in Great Falls. I have known Allen since we were teenagers growing up in Helena. I think he would make an excellent judge.

Allen was simply made for the position of Judge. His integrity is impeccable. If I had to be in a trial, I would pray to have a man as clear-headed, insightful, intelligent and honest as Allen presiding. He hears and understands people. One never knows what impact a gentle and understanding listener can make. A rarity indeed. Allen has that nature. He always made me feel heard and loved when I needed it as a teenager. I remember that so well because I'm the youngest of four "leader" types, and it wasn't always easy to get people to hear me when I needed to say something. For the record, I'm fifty years old now, and it still isn't.

In addition, he has an open and accepting mind. For me that says a lot. Although let's keep it real, it's his clever sense of humor that I dig the most.

I do want Allen to be selected, not just for him, but for anyone seeking a fair individual to make the assessment and judgment that affects their actual life. I know that Allen will exercise that authority temperately, seriously, and fairly. He is quite succinctly, a steady calm man. Does anyone even realize how incredibly rare that is these days?

I'm a photographer and writer and spent easily ten years in other countries under other rule. More recently I lived on the island of St. Thomas in the US Virgin Islands for eight years, renowned for its corruption. I recently left St. Thomas when I relocated to New Orleans, so trust me, I know what I'm talking about. (Can one use LOL to the commission panel or is that frowned upon? It couldn't be helped.:). There I go again)

The point is, I have seen these qualities of his innate character makeup since he was about thirteen years old. I know his temperament and I know how rational he has always been. It used to make me crazy sometimes. He always considered consequences which, as you can probably recall from your own youth, can damper things a bit when met with a free spontaneous risk taker such as myself. I probably owe him a thank you, but I'm afraid I also still owe him five dollars for losing a bet when I was sixteen that I could do some sort of shenanigans and not get in trouble. I hope detention had improved somewhat in the past thirty years. If he kept that up, I can only assume he now owns a small island somewhere in the tropics.

I have seen little Allen Lanning grow and mature into an incredibly impressive man, and I'm not afraid to attempt taking credit. I'm somehow oddly relieved he is running for Judge because It gives me a feeling of contentment and security, not only knowing he will be a judge, but knowing he will be a peer of, and likely the ear of other men and women in judicial appointments. People that change the trajectory of other peoples' lives everyday. That's serious stuff. My family and my people are still there, I'd like to imagine them in a safe fair society, it just puts my mind at ease.

When I got word that I had the opportunity to stand up and say some words in support of someone I have held in high regard for most of my life, I didn't hesitate. Even by helping Allen win this position, I know I have served the citizens of the State of Montana, by brethren. I can now exhale.

Thank you. Cynthia Stetzer Judicial Nomination Commission c/o Lois Menzies Office of Court Administrator P.O. Box 203005 Helena, MT 59620-3005

Via email - mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

RE: Allen P. Lanning

Honorable Members of the Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing concerning the appointment of Allen Lanning to the position of District Court Judge. I am a volunteer with the CASA/CAN program in Great Falls. As such, I many times appear in front of the Court for rulings concerning the welfare of YINC. In the recent past, Allen Lanning has been the Standing Master involved with my cases. It is because of what I observed, that I write this letter in support of his appointment. What I observed while in court was a judge who was knowledgeable, prepared and compassionate. Allen was fair and yet firm. He was thorough and thoughtful in his deliberations. He informed the parents of their responsibility and what the time lines would look like. He informed others involved in the cases of their responsibilities and emphasized the need for expediency so that the children involved could find some stability and calmness in their lives. This is usually missing in the cases with which I deal. After the last hearing, I approached Allen and expressed my approval of his methods.

I was recently appointed to a city board on which Allen sits. I look forward to working on this board with him. I know the quality of his work and that will help to continue to make good things happen.

Please positively consider the appointment of Allen Lanning to the opening in the District Court Judgeship in Great Falls.

Please feel free to contact me by utilizing the information above. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patty Myers

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 3:18 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: maryljolley@charter.net [mailto:maryljolley@charter.net]

Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 5:00 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning letter of support

January 27, 2016

#### **Dear Commission Members:**

I'm writing in support of Allen Lanning's application for the position of the District Court Judge. I have known Allen for over 15 years. I wrote in support of Allen when Judge Neil's position became open. I hear comments from lawyers about how they are greatly impressed by the demeanor of the gentleman you chose to fill Judge Neil's robe. I am happy that Allen Lanning has applied to be nominated again. I shall comment again on his judicial temperament, which is calm when dealing with issues of gravity and with persons of all walks of life.

I was a Board President of The CASA Program in Cascade County and served with Allen who was on the board. He gave sound legal advice (free) when needed. His serious concern with the legal rights of all involved in situations involving DPHHS were apparent.

I have just finished my third year as Justice of the Peace of Cascade County Department 1. Allen has been my substitute judge since I started. I can find another sub judge but I do not think there is a better candidate for District Court in Cascade County than Allen. Our present District Court judges treat all who appear before them with respect and are knowledgeable of the applicable law. Allen will be of the same mold if appointed.

Sincerely,

Mary Jolley

Cascade County Justice of the Peace.

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 3:18 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Paul Neal [mailto:paulneal2@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 1:54 PM

To: MT Supreme Court, Subject: Allen Lanning

Dear Montana Judicial Nomination Commission:

I have known Allen Lanning ever since I became a lawyer. Through the years, I have had cases where we were on the same side, opposite sides and even before him as a Standing Master. His integrity and work ethic are beyond question. The Judicial system would be lucky if all clients were fortunate enough to have the representation that he has offered to his clients. HE knows the law well, as any good candidate should. However, what really makes Mr. Lanning stand above the rest as a Judicial Nominee is his demeanor. He is both mild, so as to emanate an atmosphere of mutual respect and coordination in the Court room, and analytical, so as to render sound decisions. As much as I would miss Mr. Lanning's presence as counsel, I think Mr. Lanning could enrich the Bar much more and a District Judge. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

\_\_

Paul Neal Attorney at Law

Neal Law, P.C. P.O. Box 890 417 South Main Street Conrad, Montana 59425

Phone: 406-271-2804 Fax: 406-271-2934

Email: paulneal2@gmail.com

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**Judicial Nomination Commission** 

C/O Louis Menzies

via e-mail mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

RE: Allen P Lanning

To Members of the Judicial Selection Committee

I am have been a resident of Cascade County for over 25 years and have known Allen Lanning for most of that time beginning with both of our service on The Children's Receiving Home Governing Board and continuing with both of our involvement with CASA-CAN. Allen has also served on that board and now in his position as Standing Master he handles many YINC cases from the bench. I have been a CASA-CAN GAL for 8 years and have worked with several judges both in and out of Cascade County in the YINC Courts. My work as GAL has also taken me into the Criminal Courts. Allen has presided over several of the hearings of my YINC cases. I see that he judges wisely, fairly and impartially in these cases and I know he would judge the same way in other courts. He is also patient and shows a lot of respect to all who come before him in court.

I urge you to choose Allen to fill the seat vacated by Judge Julie Macek. Allen has a well rounded background of representing a variety of clients. He has a depth of experience beginning with his own private practice and now has enhanced his knowledge with his Standing Master position in YINC court. In addition he contributes to the community through his pro bono work and volunteering his time to serve on governing boards and contributing to other community activities.

We need a judge that has extensive experience with youth in the Eighth Judicial District as we have such a high incidence of cases involving youth in our courts.

Please select Allen P Lanning to be moved to the top of the list of candidates considered for the position of Judge in the Eighth Judicial District.

Marg Greer

CASA-GAL

406-468-9306

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 2:42 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Tracy Houck [mailto:tracy@the-square.org]

Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 2:13 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning Endorsement

Dear Montana Judicial Nomination Commission,

I am writing to you today in support of Allen Lanning's application for Montana district court judge for Cascade County.

In the last couple of years, I have forged a friendship with Mr. Lanning that developed out of our working relationship jointly serving on the Mansfield Advisory Council where we both were appointed by the Great Falls City Commission.

In both Allen's personal and private lives he has demonstrated his integrity, character and his compassion to his peers, clients and friends. He is an incredibly brilliant lawyer who is knowledgeable of Montana law. He is an understanding individual who has deep emotional intelligence and a personality that is tempered by a gentleness. Please consider Allen as your first and only choice for this open position. He is the best candidate and has the support of many based on the qualities and qualifications I have listed.

Tracy Houck
Paris Gibson Square, Executive Director
Great Falls City Commissioner
Signature Ceremonies, owner

Tracy Houck, Executive Director | Paris Gibson Square | 1400 1st Avenue North Great Falls, MT 59401 www.the-square.org | 406.727.8255

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Admission to the Museum is Free - thanks to Farmers Union Insurance!

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Friday, January 29, 2016 2:43 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Rhonya LeVegue [mailto:rhonyarl77@hotmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 9:54 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen P. Lanning Application for District Judge

To: Judicial Nomination Commission, c/o Lois Menzies

Dear Commission Members,

I send this letter to you supporting Allen Lanning's application for appointment as District Judge for the Eighth Judicial District.

I have known Mr. Lanning for 27 years. I worked for him for 15 years as a legal secretary when he was with the law firm of Conklin, Nybo, LeVeque & Lanning. I enjoyed working with him as he has an excellent knowledge of legal issues. He has experience in many areas of law i.e., probate, family, business, insurance, personal injury. He has always been very particular and thorough in his legal writing i.e., motions, briefs, legal opinion letters, etc.

He has also shown great concern and empathy for his clients and has always represented them to the best of his abilities. I believe, as a district judge, that Mr. Lanning would be unbiased and fair to the attorneys and their parties and would treat them with the utmost respect, as well as understanding and analyzing the legal issues that would be before him.

I recommend Allen Lanning for the position of District Judge.

# Renee LeVeque

13231 15th Ave. NE Seattle, WA 98125 January 26, 2016

Judicial Nomination Commission C/o Lois Menzies Office of Court Administrator P.O. Box 203005 Helena, MT 59620-3005

**Dear Commission Members:** 

I write this letter in support of the application of Allen Lanning for appointment as District Judge for the Eighth Judicial District of the State of Montana.

I have know Mr. Lanning for over 25 years, as an Associate and Partner in our law firm, Conklin, Nybo, LeVeque & Lanning, P.C. He has broad experience in the practice of law, including probate and business transactions, insurance and personal injury law, criminal law, and family law. He is a fine trial lawyer who has tried and won some difficult lawsuits, and is always well prepared. We have written several appellate briefs together. Allen possesses very impressive analytical ability which will make him an excellent judge, able to grasp and deal with complex and sophisticated legal issues.

However, as important as the above qualities are, in my opinion Mr. Lanning's most important attribute that supports his appointment as district judge is his large capacity for empathy and understanding the human condition. For several years he has continued to serve as an effective and sympathetic *guardian ad litem* on behalf of neglected children. They could not be better represented.

I am confident that as District Judge, Allen Lanning will treat both lawyers and litigants with respect and understanding. I strongly recommend him for this position.

Yours very truly

William Conklin, Retired

Former Bar Association Member No. 280

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 3:12 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: STEVE BROWN [mailto:logan19621962@yahoo.com]

Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2016 11:08 AM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning's application for the district court judge position

#### Dear Commission members,

I want to take this opportunity to fully endorse Allen Lanning for the district court judge position. I've known Allen for a long time and I have nothing but admiration and respect for the lawyer and the man. That is not a statement I make lightly as my opinion of lawyers in general is quite low. I see most lawyers as people who use their law training to protect the wealthy and powerful and in doing so become wealthy themselves.

Allen however is the exception. He uses his training and intelligence to actually help people. Quite often children who need that help the most. An honest, smart, caring judge is a rare thing and Allen would be all of those things.

I hope you give him full consideration.

Sincerely,

Steven Brown

From: MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 3:11 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: johnathan carpenter [mailto:jcarpenter1980@yahoo.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2016 4:55 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Support for Allen Lanning

Hi, my name is Kohnathan Carpenter. I am an employee at Benefis Hospital. I am writing in support of Allen Lanning to fill the position as a district court judge.

He is one of the kindest, just and reasonable people I have ever had the pleasure to meet. I can't think of any better qualities a judge could posses.

Thank you for your time in reading this. - Johnathan Carpenter

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 3:11 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Justin Sakalis [mailto:justin.sakalis@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 12:00 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Letter in support of Allen P. Lanning

Dear Selection Committee,

I am writing in support of Allen Lanning for district court judge in Great Falls. Allen is the most qualified candidate for the position because of his breadth of experience, and his overall character would truly make him a remarkable judge. In the three years that I have known Allen, I have witnessed firsthand his loving nature as a devoted father, and have come to rely on him—as do his friends—as a source of wisdom.

As a father, he is strives to ensure that his daughter is raised with a keen sense of fairness. In fact, her teacher reported that Sophia demonstrates an empathy and concern of other students that is quite remarkable for a child of her age. This trait undoubtedly comes from her father and the environment he has sculpted for her. During his separation, Allen never weaponized his daughter, as many parents do. He leads by example, as he did then and now, that two parties can get along with each other fairly, peacefully, and amicably. At the forefront of every decision he made was his child, while upholding the rights of the other parent as well. What a treasure it would be for society if more parents acted the same way.

Last summer, I enjoyed a day on Holter Lake with Allen and his extended family, and it was then that I noticed that in whatever group he's in, people look to Allen for the final say. Whether it be to wrap up a decision on where to go for lunch, analysis on a complex current event, or literally anything else, people rely to Allen for his wisdom. With his thirst for knowledge comes a great deal of reflection and contemplation, and I think those traits would be essential for someone on the bench.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Justin Sakalis

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 2, 2016 3:16 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Seth L [mailto:slutter@ruraldynamics.org]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 5:17 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Lanning Support Letter District Judge of the 8th Judicial District

To Whom It May Concern;

It is with high praise and pleasure that I submit this letter of recommendation for Allen Lanning for the position of District Judge of the 8th Judicial District.

I have known Allen for a few years and found his ethics, professionalism, and reputation have always preceded every encounter we've had. From my many interactions with Allen I have learned that he takes his responsibilities extremely seriously as a father, friend, and lawyer. Even on a personal level I've found Allen to be fair and judicious even when I wanted him to side with me! He is that kind of logical thinker.

In addition to being an active member of the community, he also does charitable work, volunteering with local community organizations, as well as many other small groups that cater to fairness and equality for minorities. I feel that as someone that dispenses justice, a judicial member should also be active in the community encouraging it everywhere, not only when bound on the bench.

His successes and attributes legally speak for themselves while a quick glance at his resume shows that he has been a substitute judge now for many years, an editor for the Montana Law Review, and lead counsel on many cases that have had a significant affect on litigation in Montana. While there are numerous other candidates for this position, I don't feel that any of them will be able to seamlessly integrate into the position as he would, let alone take on the job with the level of enthusiasm and professionalism that he would. In a sense, he lives, breathes and exists for Jurisprudence.

The position would be a reward for a career that he has long strived for, and a reward for the citizens of Cascade County to have a fair, knowledgeable Montanan on the bench.

My own experience comes from working with Allen professionally while acting as the Director of Counseling at a local non-profit financial counseling center where Allen has given legal advice for low-income single mothers needing legal assistance through tough times. I also offer my support a friend who understands Allen's strive for success and fairness across the boundaries of Cascade County. You can find no higher candidate for this position.

Sincerely,

Seth Lutter

Sincerely, Seth Lutter Director of Counseling RDI – Rural Dynamics, Inc. • 2022 Central Ave, Great Falls MT 59401 Direct 406.454.5720 • Fax 406.761.8622

www.RuralDynamics.org



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**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 2, 2016 3:16 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Bill Hutchinson [mailto:campingteam@bresnan.net]

Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 9:21 AM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Lanning Appointment

RE: Allen P. Lanning

Jan 31, 2016

Judicial Nomination Commission c/o Lois Menzies Office of Court Administrator P.O. Box 203005 Helena, MT 59620-3005

Dear Commission Members,

I am writing today in support of Attorney Allen Lanning for appointment as District Judge for the Eighth Judicial District. From 2011 to 2015, I was the program coordinator for CASA/CAN of Cascade County. During this time, I had the privilege of being associated with attorney Lanning in many facets of Child Abuse and Neglect cases in Cascade County. Mr. Lanning was an active member of our board of directors and more than willing to provide guidance when needed. As an appointed attorney for the youth in the court room, I observed a man who was always speaking up for the rights of the children and not hesitating to ask pertinent questions if the need arose. He was always knowledgeable about all the cases he was involved in, and numerous times took on extra duties when the need arose. In my opinion, I found him to be a fair, and honest individual, who was always open to discussion, yet steadfast in his beliefs.

Prior to my retirement in December of 2014, Mr. Lanning was appointed as a standing master to assist in the youth in need of care hearings. It was in this position that I observed an individual who understood what was required in the courtroom, spoke with authority and handled all parties with openness and fairness.

I believe that Mr. Lanning will be highly respected as a District Judge and I fully support his appointment.

Sincerely,

Bill Hutchinson, Retired Program Coordinator CASA/CAN of Cascade County

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 2, 2016 3:15 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: <a href="mailto:lpkaldor@aol.com">lpkaldor@aol.com</a> [mailto:lpkaldor@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 9:57 AM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Support for Allen Lanning as Montana district court judge for Cascade County

Dear Commission members,

I am writing to give my support of Allan Lanning as a district court judge. I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Lanning in both professional and personal relationships. I find his abilities in both settings to be commendable, respectable, and humanistic.

Professionally I have worked with Mr. Lanning in Estate Planning and as an expert witness for an individual he represented. I have also used Mr. Lanning when seeking legal advice. In all instances I found Mr. Lanning to be deeply knowledgeable in the law, capable of explaining the complexities of the law in layman terms for individuals to understand, and both fair and cognitive when seeking justice.

Personally, I have had the pleasure of knowing Allen for almost 23 years. In that time I have watched him navigate many of life's challenges. These challenges have given Allen the unique perspective of understanding life from a real world point of view. In one instance Allen may have to view life from the point of a child; in order to explain something to his daughter. Then two minutes later be able to be able to take a turn as a talented poet and present material that will grab the hearts of the listener.

As a general rule for myself I rarely support individuals that I have deep relationships with, as in my opinion, it eventually causes issues. I support Mr. Lanning for this position, because Allen Lanning is one of the most fair, thoughtful, and knowledgeable men I know. I believe he will be a fair and just district judge. Representing both Montana and it constituents in the best possible manner.

Thank you for your time and for allowing me to voice my opinion. I appreciate you.

# Sincerely

Lance Kaldor lpkaldor@aol.com

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 2, 2016 3:15 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Shawn Trueman [mailto:truesh324@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 10:31 AM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen P. Lanning - Judicial Nominee

Dear Sirs:

I am writing in support of Allen Lanning's application for the position of District Court Judge.

Allen has been a friend to me for over 35 years. Our relationship started when, as a high school student, Allen became my "Big" in the Big Brothers Bis Sisters program in Helena. Not long after that relationship began, I matriculated from Cub Scouts into Boy Scout Troop 211 where Allen was already a member. During my teenage years, Allen was a true friend, and mentor. I wanted to be like him and do the things that he was doing.

On a personal level, we have shared some of each others highest and lowest times. We have stood for one another at our weddings, and comforted and encouraged each other in times of loss and sorrow. I have always been able to call Allen and get much needed counsel.

I would be remiss to neglect mentioning that over the years we both have changed. I suppose that is the nature of men. There are several things that I would no longer agree with Allen on, but we have always been able to disagree in a kind and gentleman-like manner.

My understanding is that Allen is seeking this position in part so that he may continue to be an advocate for children who have been abused and neglected. For this, he is well suited. He has proven his commitment to the underrepresented and underprivileged since coming alongside me as the child of a single mom so many years ago.

Sincerely,

Shawn Trueman 2832 South Saulsbury St. Denver, CO 80227

817-995-6760

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 2, 2016 3:14 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Ty Arthur [mailto:xfiruath@metalunderground.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 10:42 AM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning District Judge Position

Hey there Commission members,

I'm writing you in regards to the open district court judge position to express my strong support for Allen Lanning, a personal friend who is deeply involved in his community.

Besides his active involvement with local creative and entertainment events, Allen's work with CASA-CAN is inspiring to all who have the pleasure of meeting him.

I know Allen to be a level-headed and reasonable person who would make an excellent addition to Cascade County's judicial system.

Thank you for your time!

Ty Arthur Freelance writer / editor Great Falls, MT

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 2, 2016 3:14 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Jamie Frederickson [mailto:jamiefred@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 1:51 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning for District Judge

It is with pleasure that I submit this letter of recommendation for Allen Lanning for the position of District Judge.

I have known Allen Lanning for 10+ years. Allen is the most professional person I know and is highly qualified for the position. He also possesses a temperament and demeanor that well benefits a judicial officer in court. I support Mr. Lanning's application without reservation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Morse

Columbus Center
Suite 332
Counselor
Great Falls, MT 59401

Joe Ann McClean-Niemeyer, MSC (dba) Jodi McClean- Niemeyer, MSC jodijoel@3rivers.net cell 406-697-1626

Judicial Nomination Commission c/o Lois Menzies Office of Court Administrator P.O. Box 203005 Helena, Montana 5962 February 1, 2016

via e-mail – mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

Subject: Allen P. Lanning's Application for Montana's Eighth Judicial District Court Open Seat

Honorable Members of the Judicial Nomination Commission

I am writing this letter in support of Allen Lanning's application for appointment to Montana's Eight Judicial District Court seat vacated by Judge Julie Macek.

I have known Allen for approximately four years as an attorney appointed by the court re youths in need of care. I know he has given many many hours working with children in the court system. His thoughtfulness in assessing cases goes way beyond just being appointed as the children's lawyer. He engages the children in such a manner that he gives them hope that he *is* looking out for their best interests. The many children that he works with trust Allen and will open up and talk with him about their home life, their needs, and wants toward family reconciliation,--or not.

I have worked with Allen on an extremely difficult and lengthy court case involving youth in need of care. A Guardian ad litem was already appointed to the case. Allen was appointed by the Judge due to the complexities of the case and legal issues involved. The case remains open as Allen is actively working to bring the case to an appropriate closure.

Allen goes beyond just the legal issues in a case but insures that he has first-hand knowledge of a case and develops a trusting relationship with the children and principal's involved. Allen attends DPHHS meetings regarding the children to present their wishes as well as protecting their legal rights. He clearly understands the far reaching effects of decisions made in the here and now while assisting principals involved to keep focused on what is the right decision to make that will keep the case(s) going in the right direction and keep the children safe.

I know Allen's perseverance, dedication, ethical and legal background will serve him well as the next Judge for the Eighth Judicial District Court. I am recommending Allen to fill the judge's position to be vacated by Judge Julie Macek.

Respectfully, Joe Ann McClean-Niemeyer Guardian ad litem

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2016 1:44 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: brian court [mailto:bubbac36@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 8:32 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen P. Lanning for Eighth Judicial District Judge

Dear Commission members,

I am writing in support of Allen Lanning for the position of the  $Eighth \, Judicial$ 

District Judgeship.

My name is Brian Court and I am a retired Montana Air National Guard veteran, past president of the Great Falls Public Radio board, and former artistic director of two local theater groups. I have relied many times on Allen's knowledge, level-headedness, and intellect in these capacities. He has made himself available with time, advice and financial support on numerous occasions.

I have known Allen for over 20 years and I cannot think of a better candidate for this position.

Thank you,

**Brian Court** 

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2016 1:43 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: S.M. Kelley [mailto:archangelkelley@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 8:27 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Attn: Judicial Nomination commission

#### Greetings,

I have had the pleasure and privilege of knowing Allen Lanning for approximately 18 years. During that time I have sought legal advice and recommendations from him on several occasions. I have always found him to be even tempered, thoughtful, knowledgeable and fair. These are qualities I believe are important to the office of judge.

At a time in our nation when confidence in our legal system is at a low, a man with his conviction and sense of justice can only be a benefit to the bench. As a former law enforcement officer, corrections officer and military man, I have been in many courts which made me feel ill at ease.

Allen is also a man of character, with a deep sense of morality and equality.

As a legal transcriptionist both in the US and in Australia, I have transcribed too many uncomfortable court proceedings in which control and professional demeanor weren't maintained.

I can say with confidence that Mr. Lanning has the kind of presence, based on my experiences with him, and his experience with the legal system, that will foster a professional and comfortable but just environment. I would be pleased to stand before him in court, work in a court that he was sitting, or transcribe any proceedings which he oversaw.

Thank You,

Shawn M. Kelley

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2016 1:43 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Ande Brinka [mailto:ande\_brinka@gfps.k12.mt.us]

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2016 10:53 PM

To: MT Supreme Court, Subject: Allen P. Lanning

February 2, 2016

Judicial Nomination Commission Office of Court Administrator Helena. MT

#### Dear Commission Members,

The purpose of this email is to show my support for Allen Lanning in his pursuit for the position of District Court Judge. I am certain he will be an excellent candidate for the position as Allen possesses the ethical character traits needed to get the job done. Some of Allen's attributes include professionalism, objectivity, dedication, compassion, and integrity.

I have come to know Allen over the past year as a parent to one of the kindergarten students I teach. He is involved in his daughter's learning, doing anything necessary to make sure her schooling journey is a successful one. He shows his kindheartedness and love through the support he gives not only to his daughter, but also to my classroom and our school community.

I know Allen Lanning's experience and knowledge will make him the right candidate for the position of District Court Judge for Cascade County District 8.

Thank you for your time,

Ande Brinka Kindergarten Teacher Meadow Lark Elementary Great Falls, MT

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2016 1:43 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Jo-Ann DiBari [mailto:joanndibari@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 8:23 AM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Letter of support for Allen Lanning's application for the district court judge position

Dear Commission Members,

It is my honor to write to you in support of Allen Lanning's application for the district court judge position for Cascade County. Allen has been a dear friend of mine for the past 10 yrs. His love and dedication to his family, strong character, intelligence, work ethic, and passion for his profession are admirable. His dedication to the children he advocates for is nothing short of heroic.

These characteristics are what have made him one of my lifelong friends. I without hesitation believe they also make him the best choice as your new judge. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jo-Ann DiBari 312 Conway Road South Deerfield, MA 01373 1-413-575-2783

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2016 1:42 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Debbi Turner [mailto:doobwa0041@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 10:12 AM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: support for Allen lanning

#### Dear Selection Committee.

I am writing in support of Allen Planning for the District Judge Application.

I have known Allen for over 12 years as a lawyer, and as a children's advocate for the state of Montana, and feel that he would be an asset to the Judicial system as Judge.. Allen shows great dedication to the justice system, and has such care and concern for the children he has helped over the years, in the cascade and surrounding counties.

#### Debbi Turner

I am writing to support Allen Lanning on his application for D

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2016 1:41 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Jamel Franklin [mailto:jamelkfranklin@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 12:02 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Allen Lanning District Court Judge

Dear Commission,

I am writing you to express my support of Allen Lanning's application for District Court Judge for Cascade County, I have known Allen for over a decade, and in that time he has become a cherished friend whose advice, knowledge, and support has proven invaluable. I have seen Allen's civility and fair-mindedness on display during many heated debates within our social circle. He has never strayed from level-headed calmness, no matter how much the issue meant to him personally, or how many insults were hurled his way. That temperament, coupled with his passion for ensuring the well being of children and families in need leads me to believe there would be no one better suited to fill this position, Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Regards,

Jamel Franklin

From: MT Supreme Court, Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2016 1:41 PM To: Cook, Kevin **Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning From: Jeff Michna [mailto:jeff.michna@springfield.k12.or.us] Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 12:39 PM To: MT Supreme Court, Subject: Letter of support for Allen Lanning for District Court Judge February 2, 2016 **Judicial Nomination Commission** c/o Lois Menzies Office of Court Administrator P.O. Box 203005 Helena, MT 59620-3005 mtsupremecourt@mt.gov Dear Judicial Nomination Commission, I am writing in support of Allen Lanning's application for the district court judge position. I have personally known Allen for a many years and have always found him to be of upstanding character. In situations where issues arise he is always the one that people look to for guidance. His ability to quickly assess the situation quickly and give fair and unbiased advice has been valuable to me. I believe that Allen would making an outstanding addition to Cascade County and a great judge. The US judicial system needs more people like Allen that have spent so much time fighting for the needs of those that have been underserved and neglected. Sincerely, Jeff Michna

Note: The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Thank you. Springfield Public Schools

From: MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2016 1:40 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Tami Lanning [mailto:Tami.Lanning@qlik.com]

Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 1:17 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Letter of Support: Allen Lanning, candidate for Montana District Court Judge for Cascade County

#### **Dear Judicial Nomination Committee:**

I am writing in support of Allen Lanning's candidacy for Montana District Court Judge for Cascade County. I am Allen's older sister and as such, have observed him in many different settings and situations over many years. In my professional life, I am a recruiter and have worked in recruiting for almost 20 years, both running my own small business and working in recruiting leadership within corporate environments. I consider myself a fairly good judge of qualifications and fit for many different professional roles.

Allen possesses personal attributes and professional experience that have prepared him to be a highly effective, impartial and reputable judge. He is calm and collected at all times, even during situations of great provocation and turmoil. His communication skills are highly developed, and when I think of his abilities in this area, the phrase, "Seek first to understand, then be understood" is what comes to mind. He is adept at asking pertinent questions to uncover relevant information in order to fully understand a situation. He is also capable of communicating his opinions and decisions in an articulate and organized way, and can adapt his communication style to any given audience.

Allen's professional experience amassed over many years of practicing law has been built with an eye to preparation for a judgeship. He has practiced law, with a focus in business, but has also taken on diverse cases in many other areas. In addition, he has dedicated a portion of his practice to pro bono cases in family law to gain that experience and give back to the community. He has worked to become a "substitute" judge in Great Falls for two courts and now has experience managing his own courtroom, interpreting the law, making recommendations and handing down decisions. His legal experience spans constitutional law, state and federal law, and case law.

In addition to Allen's character and professional fit for a judgeship, he has also exhibited a commitment to civic engagement in Great Falls. He is active in numerous and diverse community organizations from the arts to at-risk youth.

Allen will make an excellent judge. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

#### Tami Lanning

Senior Manager, Recruitment - Americas Field

**From:** MT Supreme Court,

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2016 1:39 PM

To: Cook, Kevin

**Subject:** Public Comment -- Lanning

From: Cathleen [mailto:linilamb@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 1:28 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

**Subject: Allen Lanning Application** 

#### **Dear Commission Members:**

I am writing in support of Allen Lanning's application to be appointed as a District Court Judge for Cascade County. I have known Allen personally and professionally for ten years. In that time, Allen has demonstrated abilities in his representation of clients as well as his duties as Standing Master that lend themselves to the position. He has represented clients in a wide range of both civil and criminal matters as both plaintiff and defense counsel. In a time when our community is suffering an epidemic of child abuse and neglect matters, Allen has aided in multiple capacities: as a Guardian ad Litem, as an attorney for children, and as the Standing Master to see that these cases are given the time that is needed.

While I will not benefit personally from Allen's appointment, the community, as a whole, will.

Cathleen Rogers